

Message Text

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ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 /016 W
----- 103314 /14-S

P R 230726Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4376
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY OSLO

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 18800

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, EGEN, RH, JA
SUBJECT: APPROACH TO GOJ ON ZIMBABWE DEVELOPMENT FUND

REF: STATE 304674

SUMMARY: DCM PRESENTED ZIMBABWE FUND PROPOSAL TO
MOFA MIDEAST/AFRICA BUREAU DIRGEN ON DECEMBER 22.
FONOFF PROMISED CAREFUL STUDY OF PROPOSAL AND
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CIRCUMSPECTION IN DISCUSSING IT WITH PRESS. END
SUMMARY.

1. WITH HOLIDAYS AND FORMATION OF NEW JAPANESE
GOVERNMENT IMPENDING, AND FINAL ROUND OF GOJ BUDGET
NEGOTIATIONS TO FOLLOW SHORTLY THEREAFTER, EMBASSY

OPTED FOR WHAT APPEARED TO BE BEST CHANCE TO PRESENT ZIMBABWE PROPOSAL, ALBEIT AT A LOWER LEVEL THAN WE HAD HOPED. DCM SAW DIRECTOR-GENERAL FOR MIDEAST AND AFRICAN AFFAIRS, HIDEO KAGAMI, ON DECEMBER 23. HE DISCUSSED PROPOSAL PER TALKING POINTS IN REFTEL AND HANDED OVER PACKET RECEIVED PREVIOUS DAY FROM UK EMBASSY, HIS TALKING POINTS, AND COPY OF PRESS GUIDANCE.

2. KAGAMI RECALLED EARLIER, INFORMAL EXCHANGE ON ZIMBABWE AT US-JAPAN PLANNING TALKS (OCTOBER), WHEN KAGAMI HAD STRESSED THAT ANY HINT ZIMBABWE FUND MIGHT BE DESIGNED AS COMPENSATION FOR WHITE SETTLERS WOULD RENDER GOJ ABILITY TO CONTRIBUTE DOUBTFUL. DCM SAID PRESENT PROPOSAL CLEARLY DESIGNED TO ADVANCE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF ZIMBABWE AS A WHOLE, AND NOT TO "COMPENSATE" WHITES. KAGAMI REMARKED THAT INsofar AS FUND IS CHARACTERIZED AS AIMED AT "GENERAL DEVELOPMENT." SOME HERE WILL ASK "WHY ONLY ZIMBABWE? WHY NOT NEEDY NEIGHBORING STATES AS WELL?" DCM SAID THAT POLITICAL CIRCUMSTANCES MADE ZIMBABWE FUND ESSENTIAL; IT WAS CRITICAL TO SUCCESS OF GENEVA NEGOTIATIONS.

3. KAGAMI ASSURED DCM THAT HE WOULD FORWARD PROPOSAL PROMPTLY TO FOREIGN MINISTER, AND THAT IT WOULD RECEIVE CAREFUL FOREIGN OFFICE STUDY. PRIOR TO THAT, HE DID NOT THINK IT POSSIBLE TO COMMENT FURTHER. KAGAMI SAID THAT IF QUERIED BY PRESS, GOJ WOULD SAY THAT FORMAL APPROACH HAS BEEN MADE CONFIDENTIAL

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AND THAT PROPOSAL UNDER STUDY, BUT WOULD NOT DISCUSS DETAILS OF PROPOSAL.
HODGSON

NOTE BY OC/T: DISTRIBUTION PER S/S-O, MR. GOLDSMITH.

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